

In the Specification:

On page 13, please delete the first paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

Note that the detection of congestion at a specific node or link may not cause that congested network element to be avoided altogether. In some embodiments, an indication of congestion may only be used to scale back the amount of control traffic sent to or through specific network elements. The portions that are sent to the somewhat congested node could be determined based on priority of the control traffic. By scaling back the amount of control traffic sent to a congested network element,[[,]] congestion can be dealt with in a proactive manner that may allow serious congestion conditions to be avoided by detecting increasing congestion levels at a network element and scaling back the control traffic to that network before the problem escalates. As the congestion level at the network element is reduced, the level of traffic to the element can then be increased accordingly.